

SECRET CONTROL

HEADQUARTERS

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*Symphony*

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SUBJECT; GENERAL: Project SYMPHONY

SPECIFIC: Dr. KASTNER and Eng. BYESZ

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SOURCE: LILAC

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REFERENCE: LVX 207, LVX 216, LVX 217

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COMMENT: Attached is translation of report from LILAC.

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EVALUATION: B-3

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1. Samuel SPRINGMAN was leader of the JOINT in Budapest until November 1943. In December 1944 he, and his wife left for Palestine and transmitted his duties to KASTNER (alias Dr. KRASZNER) who worked together with Joel BRANDT. Dr. KASTNER originates from Klausenburg (Koloszvar). In the middle of June 1944 I asked Dr. KASTNER to be included in a transport of Jews to Palestine. He asked anywhere from 100,000 to 200,000 pingo (at that time \$1 was worth 30 pingo on the black market). After I had told him that I was SHEILACH ERI, he promised to transport me for nothing. I met him on 27 June 1944 in the apartment of Joel BRANDT and gave him my whole fortune consisting of 265 napoleons d'or. I also met there his wife and his other collaborator, Ing. BYESZ. KASTNER declared that the transport leader (his own brother) would give me the countervalue once we arrived in Spain or in Palestine. At the conversation were present Ing. BYESZ and a certain SANTHO, Laszlo, who was in KASTNER's service. I was later arrested by the Gestapo.

2. In June 1944 I heard from Dr. TOUCHMAN in Vienna that Dr. KASTNER and Ing. BYESZ had fled from the Russians to Pressburg and Vienna whence they went to Switzerland and joined Saly-Mayer in Geneva (delegate of the JOINT in Switzerland). I also heard that BYESZ was coming back to Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest to distribute money for the refugees there. I heard later through the International Red Cross that BYESZ had been arrested by the French authorities in Vorarlberg.

3. In the beginning of August 1945 I met a certain Gyula GROSS. (See LVX 217). He told me that the French had found and confiscated on BYESZ's person a large amount of Swiss francs and a great number of gold watches. Dr. KASTNER and BYESZ were apparently wanted by the Russian authorities and the Hungarian State police for different swindles and for having taken money and jewels from the Jews.

4. KASTNER's former employee, SANTHO, was arrested by the Russians for eight weeks and is now in a Hungarian jail whence he was liberated after eight weeks.

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